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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

NATIONAL COOPERATIVES CONGRESS CALLS FOR MORE SOCIALIZATION;  
HUNGARY TO START SERIAL PRODUCTION OF COMBINES

NOTE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, DEFECTS -- Budapest, Szabad Nep, 9 Jan 51

The second national congress of the SZOVOSZ (National Association of Co-operatives), in which 328 representatives of nearly 1,500,000 cooperative members participated, was held in Budapest on 7 January under the chairmanship of Imre Degen, president of the association.

In his report, Degen described the difficulties which accompanied the rapid growth of the cooperative movement in Hungary. One of the chief defects is lack of initiative among the members, as a result of which membership increased by only 80,000 during 1950. Another defect is that middle peasants represent only 16.4 percent of the committee membership in agrarian cooperatives.

Sales turnover in the cooperatives increased by 227 percent in 1950 as compared with 1949, while producers' and animal-breeding contracts netted the peasants an income of 1,066,000 forints.

B. S. Timofeyev, head of the Soviet delegation, told the congress that co-operatives in the USSR have a total membership of 32 million. The movement comprises over 27,000 consumers' cooperatives, 215,000 commercial enterprises, and over 25,000 restaurants. The personnel employed by Soviet consumer cooperatives totals approximately one million.

Stanislav Bieniek, the next speaker, gave a description of the cooperatives in Poland, which number over 2,000 at present.

Vasile Holuban, delegate of the Central Association of the Cooperatives in Rumania, placed cooperative membership in his country at 5 million and stated that the cooperative network has been extended to the farthest corners of Rumania. The Rumanian cooperatives have been instrumental in stimulating the exchange of goods between cities and the rural areas.

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Nepomuczky [fnv], representing Czechoslovakia, reported that one million hectares of farm land in 3,275 communities are cultivated by the peasant members of the Czechoslovak cooperatives. Together with the state farms, socialized farm land now comprises over 22 percent of the total agricultural area in Czechoslovakia.

The address of Gennaro Miceli, the Italian delegate, was devoted to a description of the struggle of the Italian Communist Party for the possession of uncultivated farm land and for the draining of the Po Valley marshes. Telegrams were read from the Central Associations of Cooperatives of Bulgaria and of the German Democratic Republic.

TO START SERIAL PRODUCTION IN FEBRUARY -- Budapest, Vilagossag, 17 Jan 51

In 1950, the EMAG (First Hungarian Agricultural Machine Works) built the first five Hungarian harvester-thresher combines. As a result of experiments, the diesel engine in the combine will be replaced by a gasoline motor and other changes in construction will also be made.

The new combine will go into serial production in February 1951. Plans call for the completion of ten combines in March and 20 each in April and May.

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